

A Dull but Very Strong Stock Market.

MONEY MADE STRINGENT

Quarterly Statement of the State Banks.

WALL STREET, }
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 24—6 P. M.

There was no work done to-day on the Stock Exchange worth a line of print. Business was made to take a back seat and the customary wrangle over prices was forced to give way to the prevalence of a general hilarity. Without entering into the ecclesiastical propriety of celebrating a Christian festival by pagan ceremonies, it is certain that it was done, nevertheless, to the benefit of all concerned. The festive broker was in high feather to-day and snowed the possession of a soul that rose above a growing grasping at eighth and tenth hours of the hour of eleven and twelve o'clock there was an intermission of business and an hour of fun, heartily entered into and enjoyed by everybody. To the casual observer it was an hour of child's play, but to the observer who sought in the uproar for a deeper meaning there was one to be developed. The whole exhibition was simply an outburst, in a very natural way, of the thankful spirit which possessed the heart of every broker at the betterment to his circumstances which has come to him during the current year. From 1873 to 1879 the broker had a hard road to travel. For the last six months the year has been easier in all cases, pleasant in many and profitable in most. The hilarious demonstration in the Board room to-day was the outgrowth of a deeper and heartier feeling of contentment for the past year than for any other year since the war. Generous, open-hearted, honest and honorable as they are, it would be difficult to find the peers of Stock Exchange members in any kindred association. All this Board room rollicking, however, made a bad business for speculation. The best hour of the day was cut out, and there remained nothing better than a dismembered session. Nevertheless prices were strongly held and when the chance offered they advanced. Strength was the rule and weakness the exception. Better prices were made for Erie, Lake Shore, Kansas and Texas and other prominent stocks. The market, which was of the most costermongering description and had never anything better than a retail look about it, remained strong throughout with an inclination (if not an inclination) all toward higher prices. From our despatch it does not appear that the Philadelphia market was any more placid than our own in spite of the broadminded influence which is supposed to flow down any changes in prices fractional. Pennsylvania Railroad tended to weakness under an apprehension that the next monthly statement would show a decrease in earnings.

Total sales at the Board were 108,000 shares, against 214,700 yesterday. Following is an epitome of the day's transactions:

Stock	High	Low	Closing	W. Y. Y.
American Ex.	100	98	98	—
At. & Pac. Tel.	100	41	41	40 1/2
Canada Southern	140	138	138	—
Car. & Minn.	100	98	98	—
Ches. & Ohio	100	98	98	—
C. & O. G. & N. Y.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. M.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. S.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. T.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. U.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. V.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. W.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. X.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. Y.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. Z.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. A.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. B.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. C.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. D.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. E.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. F.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. G.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. H.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. I.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. J.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. K.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. L.	100	98	98	—
Ch. & N. Y. M.	100	98	98	—
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Ch. & N. Y. P.	100	98	98	—
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Ch. & N. Y. B.	100	98	98	—
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